

# **JICA Development Studies Program (JICA-DSP)**

## **Overview Information on “Local Governance with Community Participation”**

This information pertains to one of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)'s Development Study Program (JICA-DSP). This handout gives information on the overview of the program. This program will be implemented as part of the Official Development Assistance of the Government of Japan based on bilateral agreement between both governments.

## 1. Overview

Japan's 'Development Cooperation Charter, formulated in February 2015, gives "sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society" as one of its priority policies for Japanese development cooperation. The Charter upholds improvement in governance including development of legal and judicial systems, development of economic and social systems, development/reform of civil service systems, capacity building of administrative institutions, and supporting the structure of democratic politics as well as peacebuilding and fight against threats to stability and security.

In order to promote sustainable development to ensure "no one will be left behind," the "realization of a peaceful and inclusive society" where people enjoy stable lives becomes indispensable.

For this purpose, good governance at every level from national to local governments, creation of democratic institutions and systems guaranteeing wide participation and accountability, and building a country where national peace and security is maintained become important. These are mechanisms necessary to prevent anxieties and frustrations, which derive from political / economic instability or domestic disparity, from driving people to violence and radicalization in a country where the political regime is unstable, or where the development of social safety nets including social security system is insufficient.

It is also necessary to "build a resilient state" which prevents conflicts from occurring or recurring. It means that the government offers inclusive, prompt and efficient social services to the people, the people provide confidence to the government, and there establishes a coexistent society where confrontation is avoided among different groups within the community. Once such a system is established, the country would be strong enough to control various risks and shocks coming from within the country and abroad, and probability of such occurring or recurring conflicts would become extremely low.

JICA supports the realization of good governance and the promotion of democratization, including the reinforcement of corruption-free national and local administrations with accountability.

## 2. Objectives

This program is for regional/local and central government officers to improve their comprehension with reference to the local development and community rebuilding in order to enhance their policy/plan formulation and implementation capacity.

## 3. Program Outlines

The program consists of two components.

- A) **Education and research Program (Master's degree course at Yokohama National University, Interfaculty Graduate School of Innovative and Practical Studies)**

## **【Educational Philosophy】**

Yokohama National University (YNU) is an urban institution of higher education deeply rooted in the city of Yokohama, the birthplace of Japan's Westernization during the Meiji era (1868 to 1912) and home to a cluster of advanced industries. With a steadfast academic tradition of upholding freedom and autonomy, the university undertakes education and research guided by four fundamental principles: Be Active, Be Innovative, Be Open, and Be Global. It has contributed to society by cultivating a large number of human resources who play pivotal societal roles and by disseminating research findings helpful to society at large.

The advent of the 21st century has heralded a “new global age” in which the focal point of economic development is shifting to Asia. Social systems, cultures, religions, and customs are becoming ever more complex in their diversity and a range of issues standing in the way of sustainable global development have become apparent. In such circumstances, it is necessary to cultivate innovative human resources who contribute to solving the issues faced by Japanese society from an international perspective in order to generate new knowledge and disseminate such knowledge to the rest of the world.

Moreover, the challenges of the new global age are simultaneously local challenges. Like elsewhere, the area of Yokohama in Kanagawa Prefecture where YNU is located faces structural changes in industry and the problems associated with large cities. It is also beset by other local issues such as dilapidation of suburban homes and apartment complexes resulting from demographic aging, as well as a declining population, deterioration in water sources and nearby forested areas, and increasing risk of natural disaster such as volcanic eruption or earthquake.

In light of these circumstances, YNU is drawing on its traditional strengths and distinctive institutional character to further enhance and reinforce its education and research capabilities. This will enable it to better meet its obligations as a national university that can contribute globally on behalf of the international city of Yokohama.

## **【About School】**

Since Society 5.0 was proposed in “The 5th Science and Technology Basic Plan” by the Japanese Government, there is a demand for development of human resources to contribute to build the proposed plan. To make our future society secure and sustainable, it is significant to have understanding of human nature and society as well as advanced technology as AI and data science. The Interfaculty Graduate School of Innovative and Practical Studies (IFGS) sets understanding of human nature in the society and advanced technology as main pillars of its course. It seeks to cultivate human resources who can practically contribute to the new society by integrating all educational research field at YNU. The program offers flexible curriculum

including cross-departmental education programs to offer a unique educational research environment where a diverse range of students can study together on a daily basis. Instead of offering a fixed curriculum, students choose which courses to take among more than 500 specialized subjects offered by faculties across the whole university depending on their own research theme.

### **【About program】**

This degree program provides you with theoretical and practical debates on public policy and local governance. It explores critical issues based on several disciplines such as legal studies, political science, and economics. It gives a transformative opportunity for current and future leaders with a commitment to public service.

### **【Course Outline】**

- While applicants are required to take an admission test held in the IFGS, YNU offers graduate courses across the disciplines. YNU commits itself to integrating education in a global and practical manner and developing talented people that the new global era demands.
- At the beginning of the term, students choose their own research theme and supervisor. IFGS offers following seven fields as research theme.
  - Applied AI
  - Social Data Science
  - Risk Symbiosis
  - Global Governance
  - Mature Society
  - Human Intelligence
  - Yokohama Urbanist※Students on this program are to choose Global Governance and/or Mature Society as their research theme.
- Students plan their concrete research scheme and decide which courses to take, then implement the research activity in accordance with the guidance of supervisor.
- Certificate is awarded when students acquire the required credit designated for each research theme (Global Governance and/or Mature Society).

It is possible that one student attains Certificates for more than one research themes as long as he/she meets the requirement of credit acquisition.
- When students complete the program, the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) will be received.
- All courses in the program can be taken in English. However, international students can take Japanese language courses to meet the diverse needs of them on campus.

### **【Course Rules】**

#### **1. Program Requirement**

The Master Course Program in Public Policy and Local Governance requires completion of **30 credits** or more from the modules offered and also acquisition of more than one Certificates. The proposal, submission and oral defense of a master's thesis is required.

## **2. Modules**

**These modules are as of December 2021. They may change due to various circumstances.**

(1) Core Courses: 3 credits or more

Core Courses are taken by all students on the course. They give you a solid grounding in your chosen subject and prepare you to explore the topics that interest you most.

- Basics of Humanities and Social Sciences 1: 1 credit
- Basics of Humanities and Social Sciences 2: 1 credit
- Basics of Information Technology 1: 1 credit
- Basics of Information Technology 2: 1 credit

(2) Prerequisite Courses: 4 credits or less

You can choose among Prerequisite Courses depending on your research theme to acquire basic knowledge in the field you have not learned before.

(3) Specialized Courses: 22 credits or more

Specialized lectures and workshops based on your research theme.

- Lectures: 12 credits or more
- Seminars: 4 credits or more
- Workshops: 1 credit or more
- Internships: 0 credit or more

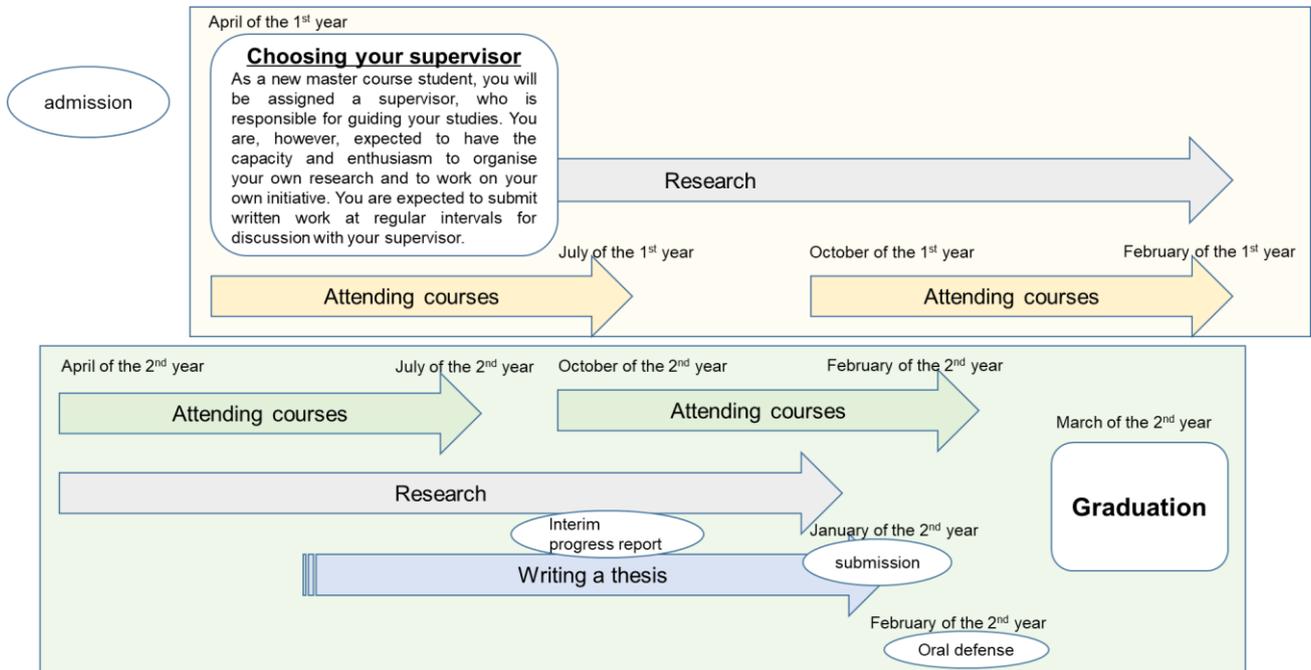
## **3. Lectures**

You can choose Lectures to broaden your horizons and tailor your course to your interests.

- Japan's Development Experiences 1: 1 credit
- Japan's Development Experiences 2: 1 credit
- Decision Making Process 1: 1 credit
- Decision Making Process 2: 1 credit
- Social Systems for Environmental Management 1: 1 credit
- Social Systems for Environmental Management 2: 1 credit
- Aging and Law 1: 1 credit
- Aging and Law 2: 1 credit
- Governance and Development 1: 1 credit
- Governance and Development 2: 1 credit
- Public Administration and Management 1: 1 credit

- Public Administration and Management 2: 1 credit
- Local Governance 1: 1 credit
- Local Governance 2: 1 credit
- Economic Development 1: 1 credit
- Economic Development 2: 1 credit
- Urban infrastructure policies: 2 credits
- International Aid Policy Debate A: 2 credits
- International Aid Policy Debate B: 2 credits
- ODA and Practical Issues 1: 1 credit
- ODA and Practical Issues 2: 1 credit

### Path to Master's Degree



#### 4. Master's thesis

All the students in master's degree course must submit a master's thesis without exception. To submit a master's thesis, the students will need to acquire total 30 credits necessary for the completion of the program, which usually takes two years in general in this graduate school. After an oral examination is conducted, the committee of the Graduate school determines whether to approve the Master's degree.

## Prospective Supervisors

(as of October 2021)

The following academics are active researchers and keen to supervise your MPhil research.

Name		Title	Specialization / Research Field
ARAKI	Ichiro	Professor	International Law, International Economic Law
KABASHIMA	Hiroshi	Professor	Political Science, International Relations
KOBAYASHI	Takaaki	Assoc. Professor	Development Cooperation Policy
NISHIKAWA	Kayo	Professor	Civil Procedure, Civil Execution
SASAOKA	Manami	Assoc. Professor	Commercial Law
SEKI	Fusako	Professor	Social Welfare Law, Elder Law
SHIROTORI	Tsunashige	Assoc. Professor	Intellectual Property Law
TSUNEOKA	Fumiko	Professor	Civil Law
YONEMURA	Kotaro	Assoc. Professor	Philosophy of Law

### B) Common Programs

In addition to the above mentioned programs, JICA will implement the Common Programs for JICA Participants. Some programs will be conducted by JICA Domestic Offices to promote international exchanges and cultural understandings between JICA participants and regional residents.

Also JICA will conduct a program, offering participants opportunities to gain a deep understanding of the Japanese development experience, and to draw lessons and gain insights that will support their development work in their home countries and internationally.

## 4. Number of Participants

Total 8 participants from the following candidate countries; Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, Columbia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Honduras and Dominican Republic

## 5. Duration and Academic Year

Total Duration: From October 2022 to April 2025

Academic Year: From April 2023 to March 2025 (2 years in principle)

## 6. Language to be used in this Program

English

## 7. Eligibility

Candidate Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Current Duties: Young Government officials, prospective academics, personnel who are expected to contribute policy formulation and/or implementation for tackling sustainable developmental issues to mainly in the fields of public policy / administration.
2. Nationality: Citizen of the following countries eligible for Japan's ODA: Uganda, Zambia, Nigeria, Columbia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Tanzania, Honduras and Dominican Republic
3. Age: Less than thirty-five (35) years old in principle (As of April 1st 2023)
4. Educational Background: Have a Bachelor Degree
5. Language: Adequate English skills both in written and oral communication to complete the master's course.
6. Others: Candidate applicants must not be receiving nor planning to receive another scholarship during the program.

## 8. Admissions

Participants must pass University's usual admission procedures including examinations to enter the program. University admission process vary by the respective universities for the Program. JICA will inform participants of the selection schedule and requirement respectively.

## 9. Application Guidelines

Candidate Applicants must fill out an application form and submit with the following application documents to JICA overseas office in your country **by February 28, 2022**.

- "Application Form for Japan International Cooperation Agency Development Study Program"
- "Research Plan"
- Certificate of Graduation from your collage/university in **ENGLISH**  
(If officially certified copy of Certificate of Graduation cannot be issued, you must present original certificate to JICA office in your country)
- Academic transcripts from your collage/university in **ENGLISH**
- TOEFL or IELTS result** (Required for all applicants. For exceptions please read [Special Remarks] below)

**[Special Remarks on the English language requirement waivers and the university certificate for your English proficiency]**

- 1) The English language requirement will be waived if the applicant is a native of or completed his/her bachelor or master's degree in English as the medium of instruction within the last five years in the U.S., the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand or English medium universities in Canada or South Africa.
- 2) Applicants who completed their bachelor or master's degree in English as the medium of

instruction within the last five years in other countries, such as India, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, etc., are not exempt from the English language requirement. Instead of submitting TOEFL or IELTS scores, these applicants can provide an official letter from the university certifying that English was the language of instruction.

## 10. Schedule (Tentative)

Date	Process
<b><u>February 28, 2022</u></b>	“Application Documents” must be submitted to JICA overseas office in respective countries.
By the end of April 2022	The result of document screening process will be notified.
During May-June 2022	Interview through Skype or other means
During July 2022	Final result will be notified
July - September 2022	Preparing for coming to Japan
October 2022	Enroll as a Research Student (at Graduate School of International Social Sciences)
January 2023	Apply for an entrance examination.
February 2023	Take an entrance examination
April 2023	Beginning of Term if applicants pass examination. (at Interfaculty Graduate School of Innovative and Practical Studies)

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